

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING SEPARATE
FORWARD DEDICATED AND SHARED CONTROL CHANNELS
IN A COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

Separate forward dedicated and shared control channels are provided in a spread-spectrum communication. The forward dedicated control channel is used to communicate persistent control information and point to the shared control channel when further intermittent control information concerning transmission of data to a mobile station needs to be communicated. The use of a dedicated control channel for only necessary persistent control information, while only pointing to a shared control channel when it is needed, affords more efficient utilization of system resources.

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